

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 94 19:08:30 PDT
From: Info-Hams Mailing List and Newsgroup <info-hams@ucsd.edu>
Errors-To: Info-Hams-Errors@UCSD.Edu
Reply-To: Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu
Precedence: Bulk
Subject: Info-Hams Digest V94 #809
To: Info-Hams

Info-Hams Digest Mon, 18 Jul 94 Volume 94 : Issue 809

Today's Topics:

 2mtr Ht for blind
 70cm band
 Bicycle generates noise on 20 meters
 Exam cheating (was:Does CW as a pre-req REALLY Work?)
 FCC delays - I contacted my senator
 HEATHKIT radio clock and Linux?
 Need info on Wilson 460 mhz conversion
 Reforming electrolytic caps
 Travling Tips Wanted
 Wanted: Dual Bander / Icom 1A

Send Replies or notes for publication to: <Info-Hams@UCSD.Edu>
Send subscription requests to: <Info-Hams-REQUEST@UCSD.Edu>
Problems you can't solve otherwise to brian@ucsd.edu.

Archives of past issues of the Info-Hams Digest are available
(by FTP only) from UCSD.Edu in directory "mailarchives/info-hams".

We trust that readers are intelligent enough to realize that all text
herein consists of personal comments and does not represent the official
policies or positions of any party. Your mileage may vary. So there.

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 17:11:22 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!cs.utexas.edu!
gerald@cc.utexas.edu!portal.austin.ibm.com!awdprime.austin.ibm.com!
mcinnis@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: 2mtr Ht for blind
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <309416\$ok8@usenet.INS.CWRU.Edu>, fe586@cleveland.Freenet.Edu (Noel Romey) writes:

>
> Dear hams,
> I am waiting for my license to come. I am a blind
> ham and am a technician. Is there an ht that someone could

> recommend. I have loned from someone an old icom but want more
> flexibility. Respond email to this message please if you can. Bye.

Be sure to thoroughly try out any HT you want to buy. Lots of modern HT's are difficult to operate even if you can see what the display says. I can't imagine operating some of them at all without being able to see the display. It's too easy to hit the wrong button and get into some wierd mode that you have to get out of to use the HT again.

--

Mickey McInnis - mcinnis@austin.ibm.com (mcinnis@vnet.ibm.com outside IBM)

--

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 94 10:13:13 PDT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!nic-nac.CSU.net!charnel.ecst.csuchico.edu!csusac!citrus!earldom!jre@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: 70cm band
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

> Radio Shack has the HTX-404 on sale, and I considered playing with this
> band to get away from all the crapola on 2 meters - but, a few days
> of listening with the wife's scanner has shown there seems to be no
> activity here in central Ohio (Columbus). Is 440 a waste of time and
> money, or is there something out there I don't know about?

Hi Steve;

To show you how popular the band is out here in California, LA has NO 440 channels left for repeaters. Sacramento (20 miles from me) is also full. I'm suprised that Columbus isn't packed as well. There just ins't as much activity on 440 as there is on 2-meters (we call it the CB band out here). But that is what is good about it. You can even put up your own repeater. Most of the 440 repeaters out here are listed as "closed", but you can usually listen for a while, then hop on and ask some questions about the repeater. Most the owners are very friendly, and won't care if you use it. Just ask. The worse thing they can do is say "no".

To put up your own repeater, I'd recommend getting a Motorola Micor mobile. They can be had for as little as \$10 (or as much as \$100). Very easy to convert into a repeater. If you can't afford a duplexer, just run two antennas (one for the tx, one for the rx). After it is up a while, people will start popping on, and you'll make friends and supporters in no time. I did that here in Sacramento. The hardest part is getting a site for the repeater. It can be done at no cost, but will take some ingenuity.

(916) 729-6825

Jim Earl - KB6KCP

(916) 929-0300 x233

(home)

jre@earl1dom.sacbbx.com

(work)

Date: 18 Jul 1994 14:15:54 -0500
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!cs.utexas.edu!not-for-mail@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Bicycle generates noise on 20 meters
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

This weekend I went for a bike ride using my MFJ 20 meter SSB travel radio and hamstick antenna. Using a headset and handlebar mounted PTT switch, I was able to make contacts while riding, but I noticed that my bike creates a lot of RF noise when it is moving.

I have two theories as to the cause of the noise:

1. The tires create static charges while rolling on the pavement.
2. The hubs create static charges as metal parts rub against each other.

I suspect #1 above, because the noise was mostly gone while riding on wet roads after a rain shower. The noise reappeared when the road dried out.

Does anyone out there in internet-land have any ideas as to the cause and possible cures to this problem?

BTW, 20 meter bicycle-mobile really does work! Propagation was lousy on Saturday, but I still made contacts with North Dakota, Mississippi, Maine, Georgia, Texas, Oklahoma, Cape Breton Island, and Dominica, using 12 Watts into a hamstick antenna.

Please respond to wayne@csg.mot.com

73,
Wayne Estes WD5FFH (Mundelein, IL)

--
Wayne A. Estes
Motorola Asia-Pacific Cellular Subscriber Division
600 N. U.S. Hwy. 45, Rm. A-S345
Libertyville, IL 60048-1286
PHONE: 1-708-523-2386 Z-MAIL: wayne@csg.mot.com
FAX: 1-708-523-8795 POST: w10191@email.mot.com

Date: 18 Jul 1994 18:32:49 GMT
From: tymix.Tymnet.COM!niagara!flanagan@uunet.uu.net

Subject: Exam cheating (was:Does CW as a pre-req REALLY Work?)
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

In article <CstB2M.7ED@news.Hawaii.Edu> jeffrey@kahuna.tmc.edu (Jeffrey Herman) writes:

>In article <199407111338.GAA06293@ucsd.edu>

William=E.=Newkirk%Pubs%GenAv.Mlb@ns14.cca.CR.rockwell.COM writes:

>>

>> It's

>>always been expected that there would be cheating in the system from time to

>>time - it even happened with the FCC running the show.

>

>Could you follow up on this with some data?

It was back about twenty-five years ago that the head of the licensing department at Gettysburg was found to be selling preferred amateur callsigns under the table.

He was hung out to dry and the current system of you-get-the-next-one-in-line-no-matter-what-so-don't-even-ask callsign assignment was put in place.

73, Dick

--

Dick Flanagan, W6OLD
dick@libelle.com

w6old@n6qmy.#nocal.ca.usa.na
CIS:73672,751 GENIE:FLANAGAN

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 94 14:59:24 EDT
From: juniper.almaden.ibm.com!VNET.IBM.COM@uunet.uu.net
Subject: FCC delays - I contacted my senator
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

Over 13 years ago when I received my ham license, delays were running 14 weeks. I remember taking my test at the FCC office (this was before the VEC/VE program), passing, then eagerly waiting for my license to arrive in the mail.

At the 10 week point, I was really wondering if I'd ever see my license. The FCC didn't give me a "receipt" to prove that I passed, so I was wondering if would have to take the test again. I had no idea how long the license "should" have taken, and I remember the FCC clerk in Baltimore telling me that it was not a good idea to call the FCC office in Gettysburg.

After about 12 weeks, I wrote a letter to my US senator asking him to intervene on my behalf. One week later, the senator's office telephoned me to tell me that my license would be processed

csus.edu!netcom.com!carndt@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Need info on Wilson 460 mhz conversion
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I recently came across a couple Wilson programmable radios. Sorry, I can't locate the model number, it must have been on a sticker that came off. The s/n is still there, though. Anyway, this is the 10 channel 460 mhz radio with the sloped front, the 2 digit LED display, and the membrane keypad.

I have figured out how to program it, and it will take an amateur band freq. However, keying the mike will light the tx light, but the t/r relay doesn't pull in.

Can this radio be made to work on 440? If so, how?

Is Wilson still around? If so, I'll call em.

Anyone have acces to any info on this radio? I'll gladly pay copying and mailing charges.

FWTW, I did check the oak.oakland.edu ftp files for mods. No dice.

Thanks,

Chris KD6DSI

Date: 18 Jul 1994 22:19:32 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!cs.utexas.edu!geraldo.cc.utexas.edu!ziggy.ph.utexas.edu!bsn@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Reforming electrolytic caps
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I am interested in obtaining a copy of the post which I think appeared in this newsgroup several weeks ago concerning the reforming of electrolytic capacitors.

To avoid inconveniencing other readers, I would appreciate it if someone could forward a copy to me via e-mail either to the above address or, preferably, to bsn@fusion.ph.utexas.edu

Thanks,
Barry W5KH

Date: 18 Jul 1994 22:50:59 GMT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!nic-nac.CSU.net!charnel.ecst.csuchico.edu!
yeshua.marcam.com!news.kei.com!uhog.mit.edu!news.mtholyoke.edu!news.byu.edu!
hamblin.math.byu.edu!usenet@network.ucsd.edu
Subject: Travling Tips Wanted
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I am planing to go to NY,NY arond the end of this month from Provo, near
Salt Lake City, Ut.

I am planing to tak I-70, I-76, 78 to 81, 80 or somthing like that.

Does anyone have any suggestion to which road to take???? As well as which
reapetor to moninor during this trip.

I would appricate any comments

thnx
tatsuya

p.s. please e-mail me

Date: 18 Jul 1994 12:45:58 -0700
From: elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!usc!nic-nac.CSU.net!ctp.org!not-for-mail@ames.arpa
Subject: Wanted: Dual Bander / Icom 1A
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

I'm looking for a dual/triple bander. I'll consider otehr models, but
these are the ones I am interested in:

Icom 1A
Kenwood 78A
Y - 530

Please email twilliam@mhs.mendocino.k12.ca.us

Thanks

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 94 17:42:35 GMT
From: pacbell.com!amdahl!netcomsv!butch!enterprise!news@ames.arpa

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <1994Jul12.000530.18018@ul.tb.isc.rutgers.edu>, <mwhite-120794112942@m14494-mac.mitre.org>, <1994Jul13.151040.19102@acuson.com>ú
Subject : Re: Opening up Kenwood battery pack

In article <1994Jul13.151040.19102@acuson.com>, collins@acuson.com (Michael Stratford-Collins) writes:

|> mwhite@mitre.org (Michael White) writes:

|>

|> >J.D. Cronin wrote:

|>

|> >> I'd like to replace the NiCad cells in the battery pack...

|> >>There are no screws visible...It looks like the entire thing was glued.

|>

|> >Either glued or sonic welded, which amounts to the same thing. The only way

|> >I've found is to cut the case apart using a very sharp hobby knife. Be

|> >very, very careful, as you have to exert a lot of force, and one slip could

|> >cost you a finger. The case can be reassembled with glue pretty well, but

|> >it will never be perfect. Good luck.

|>

|> >Mike, N4PDY

|>

|> I've been successful using a 2", blunt chisel in the slot where the

|> 2 halves join. With a series of sharp blows from a hammer, I have

|> been able to break the weld, leaving the plastic intact to allow it

|> to be re-glued (now you see why a *blunt* chisel is required :-).

|> Michael Stratford Collins (KC6TCU)

I've also gone the chisel route with my Icom BP-84 packs. I used a sharp chisel and smacked it with the heel of my hand instead of a hammer. On the Icom packs, you have to break loose a panel on the bottom of the pack for access. Two common 3-cell ni-cad AA cordless telephone packs from Radio Shack fit nicely with slightly less capacity than the originals (but more than the dead pack :-). Back on the air for less than \$20.00!

George Lyle, N7TNJ

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 21:27:39 GMT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!swrinde!howland.reston.ans.net!vixen.cso.uiuc.edu!
newsfeed.ksu.ksu.edu!moe.ksu.ksu.edu!osuunx.ucc.okstate.edu!olesun!

gcouger@network.ucsd.edu

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <309416\$ok8@usenet.INS.CWRU.Edu>, <0>,
<Ct5Bqy.4J5z@austin.ibm.com>xen.c
Subject : Re: 2mtr Ht for blind

In article <Ct5Bqy.4J5z@austin.ibm.com>,
Mickey McInnis <mcinnis@vnet.ibm.com> wrote:
>

>In article <309416\$ok8@usenet.INS.CWRU.Edu>, fe586@cleveland.Freenet.Edu (Noel Romey) writes:

>>

>> Dear hams,

>> I am waiting for my license to come. I am a blind

>> ham and am a technician. Is there an ht that someone could

>> recommend. I have loned from someone an old icom but want more

>> flexibility. Respond email to this message please if you can. Bye.

>

A good freind of mine Martin WB4AGZ is blind and swears by the old thumb wheel Icom. It is also my talky of choice when I realy need one rather than the neat dj 580 I carry most of the time..

Gordon AB5DG

Gordon Couger
Biosystems & Agricultural Engineering
Oklahoma State University
114 Ag Hall, Stillwater, OK 74074

gcouger@olesun.agen.okstate.edu 405-744-9763 day 624-2855 evenings
I do not speak for my employer

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 94 17:33:16 GMT
From: netcomsv!butch!enterprise!news@decwrl.dec.com
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <shopsonCszpr2.6Bt@netcom.com>, <dgfCszpzF.91B@netcom.com>,
<shopsonCt2H5L.8J9@netcom.com>l
Subject : Re: How do you police hams?

In article <shopsonCt2H5L.8J9@netcom.com>, shopson@netcom.com (Scott Hopson) writes:

|> David Feldman (dgf@netcom.com) wrote:

|> :In article <shopsonCszpr2.6Bt@netcom.com> shopson@netcom.com (Scott Hopson) writes:

|> :>I recently tuned into a local repeater to hear an exchange of continued

|>

|> :Let me guess: 147.435?

|>

|> I think that was the freq...

Well m'boy, let me tell you a story. I don't know the start, but I do know the middle. The end is yet to be...

In any hobby, there are going to be people who want to flaunt the rules and regulations. In hiking you have people cutting corners on trails. In flying, a few like to "bust minimums." In chess, some players are tempted to rearrange the board while their opponent is not looking. And, in Ham Radio, we have those who get a thrill out of inappropriate language and subject matter on the air.

The Infamous '435 repeater is a gathering spot for these bizarre individuals. There they feel free to use profanity, hurl racial epithets, retransmit recorded transmissions from elsewhere, ignore common ham courtesy, and just about any other written or unwritten rule.

Don't worry about using this machine. Most of the regular users seem to run considerable power and/or gain in order to climb to the top of the heap of jammers. I have heard LA basin stations on the input of this box as far away as Paso Robles and Bishop. Most users of this machine could probably communicate easier by going simplex!

Unfortunately, these folks have garnered bad publicity for hams, including a feature article in the LA Times entitled "Renegade Hams." Typical for the Times, letters sent by other hams deploring the 435 misfits were not printed for weeks, and then were buried deep within the paper.

One silver lining in the cloud is that the 435 machine seems to attract and hold the attention of those who want to abuse their operating privileges. This tends to keep the misfits from abusing other repeaters. It becomes obvious when the 435 machine is down, as users quickly inflict their antics on other machines.

Oddly enough, some of the 435 users can be pretty good hams when not on their repeater of choice. I've bumped into a few on other machines and did not even realize that they were 435 types until I was clued in by others.

In an ideal world, I would advocate that the "Singapore Solution" be applied to this problem. In the real world, it seems best to leave them be and simply ignore their garbage lest they trash up those repeaters that are used courteously.

LA has developed an undeserved reputation for garbage on repeaters.

I think that this stems from hams visiting LA, scanning through the band, and happening on the 435 machine, which is a strong signal throughout the basin. Anyone listening to this machine for a few moments might be tempted to shut the rig off and declare the whole 2m band trashed! My advice is to listen to other machines before making any judgements. The vast majority of repeaters in the LA areas are operated and used just as courteously as repeaters anywhere in the world.

George Lyle, N7TNJ

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 20:07:35 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!dog.ee.lbl.gov!overload.lbl.gov!agate!howland.reston.ans.net!
usenet.ins.cwru.edu!news.csuohio.edu!vmcms.csuohio.edu!R0264@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <301kpm\$sif@canopus.cc.umanitoba.ca>, <302i4h\$p7g@kelly.teleport.com>,
<1994Jul14.131758.10911@ke4zv.atl.ga.us>e
Subject : Re: Listening to Comet/Jupiter collision

In article <1994Jul14.131758.10911@ke4zv.atl.ga.us>
gary@ke4zv.atl.ga.us (Gary Coffman) writes:

>
>In article <302i4h\$p7g@kelly.teleport.com> tigger@teleport.com writes:
>>According to an article in July's QST, "Hear the impact?," Jupiter
>>naturally emits decametric radiation between 3 and 39.5 Mhz and the most
>>intense emissions are at 8 Mhz. The earth's ionosphere blocks the lower
>>frequencies - especially during daytime hours - so the range between 18
>>and 30 Mhz is studied more intensely by radio astronomers. The article
>>says that anyone with good 10, 12 or 15 meter antennas should be able to
>>hear the comet fragments collide with Jupiter (at least 21 of them). Dr
>>F. Reyes at U of Florida says the fragments might interact with the
>>planet's magnetosphere and create short bursts of radio energy in the
>>last 10 to 20 seconds before impact.

>
>Has anyone here been monitoring Jupiter on the HF bands recently?
>I listened years ago but have forgotten what the normal signals
>sound like. As I recall they were rather distinctive buzzsaw like
>sounds. How about some frequencies and discriptions of the signal
>in recent days. I likely won't have my HF antenna back up before
.....

I turned on my HF rig on Sat., a few hours before the first impact was expected, and tuned around a bit looking for any buzz-saw like sounds. I did not find any, but ran across a bandit net on about 27.625 Mhz, listened to them a while, and then went into another room, leaving

rig on. Suddenly, at near 21:05Z, a loud buzz-saw like sound came on, stayed on pretty steady, dropping out just for a few seconds at a time, until about 21:55Z. While it was still on, I scanned around from about 27.5 to 29.0 Mhz, and found the same sound at several frequencies in that region, more or less loud in different places, but never really budging my S meter. It was loudest on SSB, which was the mode I had been in when it first came on. After it went off at 21:55, more gradually than it had come on, I thought I heard it again a few times later in the evening, but usually not as loud as it sounded the first time. It so happened that I was on a 3-el yagi tuned for 10 meters, and I found a broad heading peak at about NW. Other family members were watching TV at the time with an outdoor antenna, and noticed no disturbance, but they were probably getting quite strong video signals, so a weak disturbance probably would not be noticed. Might this have been Jupiter?
----- Phil Emerson, AA8JO.

Date: Mon, 18 Jul 1994 18:53:34 GMT
From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!cs.utexas.edu!convex!news.duke.edu!zombie.ncsc.mil!
blackbird.afit.af.mil!fkilpatr@network.ucsd.edu
To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <395@doghouse.win.net>, <CsztKL.2MGy@austin.ibm.com>,
<JCMILLER.94Jul17201909@turquoise.usafa.af.mil>
Subject : Re: Letter to Washington about FCC delays

jcmiller@turquoise.usafa.af.mil (Jeff Miller, Homer Simpson's alter ego) writes:

>Hmm...that gives me an idea. Someone (yeah, I know) posted a statement saying
>that the FCC could not accept the services of volunteers to do the necessary
>data entry. I wonder, however, if there is any such restriction on accepting
>help from *other government agencies*. For the cost of a plane ticket and
>a few days per diem cost, I (or any other Executive Branch employee) could go
>help them out -- assuming I could get the time off here, of course :-). Maybe
>a quick grep on the Elmer list would turn up a few names coming from .gov or
>.mil sites....

>73,
>Jeff NH6ZW/N0 AFA5MJ/AFF5CO
>--

Great idea, Jeff! You know I would be willing to help out... :) Another option would be to do it as a permissive TDY. I'm sure there are lots of gov/mil within easy driving distance of DC, or at the Pentagon.

Sounds like a pretty tedious job, though. I could probably only stand a day or two of it.

73,

Alex (8 weeks and still waiting. I've forgotten everything by now)

--

Alex Kilpatrick fkilpatr@afit.af.mil

"If a kid asks where rain comes from, I think a cute thing to tell him is 'God is crying.' And if he asks why God is crying, another cute thing to tell him is 'Probably because of something you did.' -- Jack Handey

Date: 18 Jul 1994 19:25:52 GMT

From: ihnp4.ucsd.edu!usc!elroy.jpl.nasa.gov!netline-fddi.jpl.nasa.gov!sookit!
rspear@network.ucsd.edu

To: info-hams@ucsd.edu

References <dgfCszpzF.91B@netcom.com>, <shopsonCt2H5L.8J9@netcom.com>,
<1994Jul18.173316.24172@enterprise.rdd.lmsc.lockheed.com>

Reply-To : rspear@sookit.jpl.nasa.gov

Subject : Re: How do you police hams?

George Lyle (233789) (glyle@barbara.seas.ucla.edu) wrote:

[deletions ...]

: The Infamous '435 repeater is a gathering spot for these bizarre
: individuals. There they feel free to use profanity, hurl racial
: epithets, retransmit recorded transmissions from elsewhere, ignore
: common ham courtesy, and just about any other written or unwritten
: rule.

[more deletions]

i had heard a rumor that the fcc has taken action against some of the
users of 145.735 ... anybody know whether that is so and what actions were
taken?

regards, richard kd6lwd

rspear@sookit.jpl.nasa.gov

all disclaimers apply

End of Info-Hams Digest V94 #809
